



# Health Impact Assessment: Southside Recycling Permit Application

Public Engagement Session #2: Breakout Session #1

[Audio](#) | [Video](#)

12/9/2021

1. Benefits - Based on what you have heard thus far, please share some of the potential benefits of this proposal on your community. Who specifically benefits?

Industry - not reliable jobs, only stated that a handful of permanent jobs

**RMG**

Corporations are the only "individuals/company" that will benefit.

Any community welcome sustainable jobs, but when jobs vs. clean air, love investment in SE Side (green jobs, Union jobs), facility doesn't offer those things, jobs will go to those who work at LP

Benefit is that the City has the opportunity to do the right thing to prevent this polluter from moving into this environmental justice community, City can be accountable to community (HC2025)

There is a false narrative of job-versus the environment/health that is being sell out by the Corporation as a benefit, and it is sad to see that many are buying into it.

**No positive benefits to community**

**Absolutely no benefit for me, my family or my community!**

Not sure about job benefit because company already exists, so only a few jobs for local residents, workers already employed at LP

Not only job impact but impact on community in general (all need to be taken into account)

Communities shouldnt have to choose between jobs and clean air

Record as SE Side being used as a dumping ground, hard to see benefit, is this what the area will look like if this company comes like Erin Brockovich area; want clean air, no one talking about long term

**Need benefits for all citizens**

Anything placed in this community should be considered, students, decreased value of roads/increased truck traffic, even if state of the art, still detriment to others in community

## 2. Burdens - Based on what you have heard thus far, please share some of the potential burdens of this proposal on you and your community. Who specifically is burdened?

Report from EPA was cautious, highest level of pollution, data limitations in EPA report, so many people suffering from health conditions (asthma), keep repeating ourselves about disparities and health issues

Already overburdened by environmental pollution, community faces burden

**LP not comparable in terms of health and social factors to Se Side.**

City needs to look at cumulative impact: SE Side has 3 of top 5 air polluting companies: #1 Finkl, #2 Arcelormittal, #4 Ford

**Invest in things that are sustainable, other things land could be used for.**

**Look at the cause of death on death certificates. Cancer is off the charts.**

Study came out on cancer clusters. COVID cases and deaths are higher in SE Side.

A lot of research that shows how polluted community is. Air pollutant monitor was not used in presentation. Not measuring PM2.5 in permit.

**LP chosen because that is where RMG was, and they got to say no.**

Community continually has to share accurate data with City. City not recognizing SE Side as environmentally burdened.

**Look at racial impact of policy that put toxic companies on SE Side**

Data that City presented limited extent of problem of pollution and health, area was okay with asthma, LP has more asthma, asthma rates on SE side are incredibly high; Data does not portray accurate picture

Meeting continually changed, changed to virtual, meeting held on same date as other City meeting, trying to exclude community, rushing process

Comparison communities, how compare LP to SE Side, use other communities to compare

**A number of companies are already under investigation that are in the SE Side.**

The City needs to take into account cumulative burden of the air pollution that is already here.

CDPH needs to make decision, how make decision when a cumulative health assessment has never been done? Should take months and years to do well, and just getting permit in a few months

### 3. Lived Experience - Is there anything else that you want people who are working on this proposal to know or think about based on your experience as a community member?

First permit went to ILEPA was not brought to public attention. Construction permit to build concrete walls put in place. Not transparent, sneaky about slipping permit through. Then being given opportunity to

Hard to being able to heard halfway through process

Don't understand how City policies and reporting work.

Many people have been vocal and letters written by professional

Toxic landfills

Superfund site - lots of clean up that needs to happen

Redlining

Community engagement process has been lacking. Second time CDPH has presented HIA process and said community engagement is over. Disingenuous about community engagement,

Concept of consent was not given. Actively voicing that don't give consent to additional burden. Best interest of community not being considered.

Whether or not the manganese in fields has been cleaned up

Don't have access to river, is it for the people or industries?

Community/people access to river. Is it for the people or for industry? It should be for the people.

Took US EPA to call them out to due HIA, that taking comments from permitting process as HIA is disingenious. Process seems like a sham.

Puts community on defensive with putting another polluting industry in area when already burdened

Use Calumet Connect Databook - decisions should be made based on impact on community, close loopholes, require facilities to maintain landscaping, more rigorous testing, increase public access to data

Improve public access to information

# 4. Looking Forward - Beyond the permit decision, what should we be aware of as we embark on other policy or process change initiatives? Do you have any specific recommendations?

**Zoning reform to protect people who live on SE Side**

Need good developments, listen to community about what developments are needed (housing, jobs). Priorities that communities identified.

When community comes to table, and City recognizes us, not have in back of mind, that going to put in anyway; City really cares about community and listens, love wins out over money, compassion

  
Stop being in conflict with racial and health principals- e.g. Health 2025 plan. Actions should reflect principles

Research has to be done on how did this happen, why do we continue to let this happen, who is allowing this to happen. This is happening on a regular basis on SE Side. Why the 10th ward?

Require green infrastructure in developments in environmental justice communities

Left out of first three steps, CDPH has lots of work to do to gain trust; what are you studying, what are you measuring, where is the data coming from?

**Actions should follow words**

**No more toxic developments in environmental justice communities.**

**Stop being in direct conflict with racial justice principles that CDPH comitted to.**